

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

CREIGHTON TAKATA, Individually and
on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

RIOT BLOCKCHAIN, INC. F/K/A
BIOPTIX, INC., JOHN O’ROURKE,
JEFFREY G. MCGONEGAL, BARRY
HONIG, CATHERINE DEFRANCESCO,
MICHAEL BEEGHLEY, JOHN STETSON,
MARK GROUSSMAN, ANDREW
KAPLAN, MIKE DAI, JASON LES, and
ERIC SO,

Defendants.

Civil Action No.: 18-2293(GC)(TJB)

CONSOLIDATED ACTION

**STIPULATION AND
ORDER**

Lead Plaintiff Dr. Stanley Golovac (“Plaintiff”) and Defendants Riot Blockchain, Inc. (“Riot”), John O’Rourke (“O’Rourke”), Barry Honig (“Honig”), Mark Groussman (“Groussman”), John Stetson (“Stetson”), Catherine DeFrancesco (“DeFrancesco”), and Michael Beeghley (“Beeghley”) (together “Defendants,” and together with Plaintiff, the “Parties”), by and through their undersigned counsel, hereby agree and jointly propose this stipulation:

WHEREAS, on February 17, 2018, Creighton Takata (“Takata”) initiated the above-captioned action against Riot, O’Rourke, and Jeffrey G. McGonegal (“McGonegal”), alleging violations of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (ECF No. 1);

WHEREAS, the Court appointed Dr. Stanley Golovac as Lead Plaintiff and the law firm of Motley Rice LLC as Lead Counsel on November 6, 2018 (ECF No. 40);

WHEREAS, Plaintiff filed a Complaint against Riot, Honig, O’Rourke, McGonegal, and Beeghley on January 15, 2019 (ECF No. 52);

WHEREAS, Riot, Honig, O'Rourke, McGonegal, and Beeghley moved to dismiss the Complaint on March 18, 2019 (ECF Nos. 66, 67);

WHEREAS, Plaintiff filed a Consolidated Amended Class Action Complaint for alleged violations of federal securities laws on May 8, 2019 (ECF No. 72), adding DeFrancesco, Stetson, Groussman, Andrew Kaplan ("Kaplan"), Mike Dai ("Dai"), Jason Les ("Les"), and Eric So ("So") to the action;

WHEREAS, Plaintiff filed a corrected Consolidated Amended Class Action Complaint (the "Amended Complaint") on May 9, 2019 (ECF No. 73);

WHEREAS, Defendants filed motions to dismiss the Amended Complaint on September 3 (ECF Nos. 107, 108, 112), September 5 (ECF No. 118), September 30 (ECF Nos. 131, 132), and October 1, 2019 (ECF No. 134);

WHEREAS, Chief Judge Freda L. Wolfson dismissed the Amended Complaint without prejudice in an Order dated April 30, 2020 (ECF No. 167);

WHEREAS, Magistrate Judge Zahid N. Quraishi granted Plaintiff leave to file a Consolidated Second Amended Class Action Complaint (the "Second Amended Complaint") in a Memorandum Opinion and Order dated December 23, 2020 (ECF No. 187);

WHEREAS, Plaintiff filed a Second Amended Complaint on December 24, 2020 (ECF No. 188);

WHEREAS, Defendants filed motions to dismiss the Second Amended Complaint on February 8, 2021 (ECF Nos. 192, 194, 195, 196, 197);

WHEREAS, Judge Zahid N. Quraishi requested supplemental briefing on Defendants' motions to dismiss on February 28, 2022 (ECF No. 216), which the Parties submitted on March 14, 2022 (ECF Nos. 217–222);

WHEREAS, Judge Zahid N. Quraishi dismissed the Second Amended Complaint without prejudice in an Opinion (ECF No. 223) and Order (ECF No. 224) dated April 8, 2022, in which it was ordered that Plaintiff may file a separate motion seeking leave to amend his Complaint in a manner consistent with the Opinion;

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, among the Parties, subject to the Court's approval, that:

1. To the extent that Plaintiff chooses to file a motion seeking leave to amend his Complaint pursuant to the Court's Opinion (ECF No. 223) and Order (ECF No. 224), Plaintiff shall file any such motion on or before May 9, 2022.

2. If Plaintiff elects not to file a motion seeking leave to amend, then the Court shall enter a dismissal of the action with prejudice, enter a judgment, and administratively close the case.

Dated: April 18, 2022

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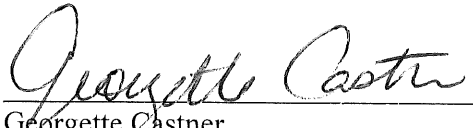
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SO ORDERED this 19th day of April, 2022.



Georgette Castner
United States District Judge